

A
DECLARATION
OF THE
LORDS and COMMONS
OF
PARLIAMENT

Assembled at OXFORD,

Of their Proceedings touching a
Treatie for PEACE, and the Refusall
thereof; with the severall Letters and
Answers that passed therein.

CHARLES R.

Our expresse Pleasure is, That this Declaration of the Lords
and Commons of Parliament assembled at *Oxford*, be read
by the Parson, Vicar or Curate, in every Church and Chappell
within Our Kingdom of *England* and Dominion of *Wales*.

March. 19. 1643.

Printed by His MAJESTIES Command, at the
desire of the Lords and Commons of Parliament
Assembled at OXFORD,

By LEONARD LICHFIELD, Printer
to the *Univerſity*, 1643.



DECLARATION

OF THE

PEERS AND COMMONS

PARLIAMENT

OF GREAT BRITAIN

IN THE FIRST YEAR OF THE REIGN OF

GEORGE THE THIRD

IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED

That whereas by an Act of Parliament in that behalf made

intituled 'An Act for the better regulating the Trade of the Colonies'

in that behalf made

intituled 'An Act for the better regulating the Trade of the Colonies'

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A
DECLARATION
 Of the Lords and Commons of Par-
 liament Assembled at OXFORD, of their
 Proceedings touching a Treaty for Peace,
 and the Refusall thereof; with the seve-
rall Letters and Answers that
passed therein.

IF Our most earnest Desires and En-
 deavours could have prevailed for a
 Treaty, Our Proceedings therein,
 without this Declaration, would
 have manifested to all the Wor'd the
 clearnesse of Our Intentions for the
 restoring the Peace of this King-
 dome: but seeing all the meanes u-
 sed by Us for that purpose, have bin
 rendered fruitlesse, We hold our Selves bound to let Our
 Countries know, what in discharge of Our duty to God and
 to them, We on Our Parts have done since Our comming to
Oxford, to prevent the further effusion of Christian blood
 and the desolation of this Kingdome.

His Majesty having by his Proclamation, upon occasion of
 A 2 the

the Invasion from *Scotland*, and other weighty reasons. Com-
manded Our attendance at *Oxford* upon the 22 of *January*
last, there to advise Him for the preservation of the Religion,
Lawes, and safety of the Kingdome, and to restore it to it's
fomer Peace and Security. These Motives, with the true
sense of Our Countries miseries, quickned Our duty to give
ready obedience to those His Royal Commands, hoping (by
Gods blessing) to have become happy Instruments for such
good ends. And upon Our comming hither, We applied
Our Selves with all diligence to advise of such meanes as
might most probably settle the Peace of this Kingdom, (the
thing most desired by His Majesty and Our Selves;) and be-
cause We found many gracious offers of Treaty for Peace by
His Majesty, had been rejected by the Lords and Commons
remaining at *Westminster*, We deemed it fit to write in Our
owne Names, and thereby make triall, whether that might
produce any better effect for accomplishing Our desires and
Our Countries happinesse. And they having (under paine
of death) prohibited the addresse of any Letters or Message
to *Westminster*, but by their Generall, and We conceiving
Him a Person who (by reason of their trust reposed in Him)
had a great influence into, and power over their proceedings,
resolved to recomment it to His Care, and to engage Him in
that Pious Worke, with Our earnest desire to him to repre-
sent it to those that trusted him, (to prevent all exceptions &
delay;) and thereupon the 27 of the same *January*, dispatched
a Letter away under the hands of the Prince his Highnes, the
Duke of *York*, and of 43 Dukes, Marquesses, Earles, Vis-
counts, and Barols of the House of Peers, and 118 Members
of the House of Commons there present, (many others of
Us by reason of distance of place, sicknes, and imployments
in His Majesties Service, & for want of timely notice of the
Proclamation of Summons not being then come hither: *fin*
which

which Letter We caused to be inclosed in a Letter from the Earle of Forth the Kings Generall. A true Copy of which Letter from us to the Earle of Essex hereafter followeth, viz.

MY LORD,

His Majesty having by His Proclamation of the 22 of Decemb. (upon the occasion of the Invasion threatned, and in part begun by some of His Subjects of Scotland, summon'd all the Members of both Houses of Parliament to attend Him here at Oxford: we whose names are underwritten are here met and Assembled in obedience to those His Majesties commands. His Majesty was pleased to invite us in the said Proclamation by these gracious expressions; [That His Subjects should see how willing He was to receive advice for the preservation of the Religion, Lawes, and safety of the Kingdome, and as farre as in Him lay, to restore it's former Peace and securitie, (His chiefe and onely end,) from those whom these had trusted, though He could not receive it in the place where He appointed.] This most gracious invitation, hath not onely been made good unto us, but seconded and heightned by such unquestionable Demonstrations of the deepe and Princely sense which possesses His Royall heart of the miseries and calamities of His poore Subjects in this unnaturall Warre, and of his most entire and passionate affections to redeeme them from that sad and deplorable condition, by all wayes possible consistent either with His Honour, or with the same future safety of the Kingdom, that as it were impiety to question the sincerity of them, so were it great want of duty and faithfulnessse in us, (His Majestie having purchased to Declare, That he did call us to be witnesses of His intentions, and privie to His intentions,) should we not testify and witnesse to all the World the assurance we have of the piety and sincerity of Both; We being most entirely satisfied of this truth,

We cannot but confesse, that, amidst our highest afflictions, in the deepe and piercing sense of the present miseries and desolations of our Countrey, and those farther dangers threatned from Scotland, we are at length erected to some chearefull and comfortable thoughts, that possibly wee may yet (by Gods mercie, if his Iustice have not determined this Nation for its sinnes to totall ruine and desolation) hope to be happie Instruments of our Countries redemption, from the miseries of waire, and restitution to the blessings of Peace. And we being desirous to believe your Lordship (howsoever ingaged) a person likely to be sensibly touched with these considerations, have thought fit to invite you to that part in this blessed work, which is onely capable to repaire all our misfortunes, and to boye up the Kingdome from ruine; That is, by conjuring you, by all the obligations that have power upon Honour, Conscience, or publique Pietie, that laying to heart, as we doe, the inwardly bleeding condition of your Countrey, and the outward more menacing destruction by a forraigne Nation, upon the very point of invading it, you will cooperate with us to its preservation, by truly representing to, and faithfully and industriously promoting with those by whom you are trusted this following most sincere and most earnest desire of ours; That they joyning with us in a right sense of the past, present, and more threatning calamities of this deplorable Kingdome, some Persons be appoynted on either part, and a place agreed on to treat of such a Peace, as may yet redeeme it from the brinke of desolation.

This addresse we should not have made, but that His Majesties summons, by which we are met, most graciously proclaiming pardon to all without exception, is evidence enough, that his mercie and clemencie can transcend all former provocations, and that He hath not onely made us witnesses of His Princely Intentions, but honoured us also with the name of being securitie for them.

God Almighty direct your Lordship, and those to whom you shall

shall present these our most reall desires, in such a course as may produce that happy Peace and settlement of the present Distractions, which is so heartily desired and prayed for by us, and which may make us

From OXFORD the
27. January, 1643.

Your &c.

We are not ashamed of that earnest, meek, and Christian request We made in that Letter, (though it was cryed through London Streets in scorn, as the petition of the Prince, and Duke of Yorke, for Peace) and We thought it would have prevailed to have procured a Treaty for so blessed a thing as Peace, and for such an end as redeeming the Kingdome from desolation (the only desire of that Our Letter :) but in stead of a compliance with Us in this Christian worke of Treaty and Accommodation, We received a meer frivolous answer, or rather a paper of scorne, in forme of a Letter, directed to the Earle of Forth, wherein was inclosed a Printed paper, called, *A Nationall Covenant of the Kingdomes of England and Scotland*, and two other Papers in writing, one called, *A Declaration of both those Kingdomes*, and the other, *A Declaration of the Kingdome of Scotland*; Pamphlets full of Treason, Sedition, and disloyalty, which being publique and needlesse here to be inserted, the Copy of the Letter hereafter followeth.

MY LORD,

I Received this day a Letter of the nine and twentieth of this instant from your Lordship, and a Parchment subscribed by the Prince, Duke of Yorke, and divers other Lords and Gentlemen; but it neither having addresse to the two Houses of
B Parliament;

Parliament, nor therein there being any acknowledgement of them, I could not communicate it to them. My Lord, the maintenance of the Parliament of England, and of the Priviledges thereof, is that for which we are all resolved to spend our blood, as being the foundation whereupon all our Law's and Liberties are built. I send your Lordship herewith, A Nationall Covenant, solemnly entered into by both the Kingdomes of England and Scotland, and a Declaration passed by them both together, with another Declaration of the Kingdome of Scotland. I rest

Essex-house,
Jan. 30, 1643.

Your Lordships humble servant,
E S S E X.

Whosoever considers this Letter, will easily find it was fully understood to whom Ours was desired to be communicated, under the expression of (*those by whom their Generall was trusted;*) and although it be pretended, because there was no addresse to the two Houses of Parliament, nor acknowledgement of them, it cou'd not be communicated to them, it is notoriously known, he did so far impart it, that a Committee of theirs advised the answer, & it appears by the penning, they all concurred in the resolution therein mentioned; whereby it is evident, that this was but an excuse framed to avoyd a Treaty; and what could that Printed Covenant, and two Declarations enclosed signifie, but to let Us know, that before we come to any Treaty, We must also joyne in that Covenant with them for the absolute extirpatiō of Church-Government here, (without, nay though against the Kings Consent,) submit the Lives, Liberties, and Estates of Us, and all those, who according to their Allegiance have assisted His Majesty, to their mercy, and admit and justify the Inveſſion from Scotland; according to the plaine sense of their Declaration? which all indifferent men will think strange preparatives

paratives to a Treaty for Peace, and after such a yeelding and submission, We know not what is left to Treat upon.

| These things are too apparent to every ordinary understanding; and yet We were not forward to apprehend the scorn of that Letter, or take it for a denyall of a Treaty, but being still solicitous for that happy Peace, which alone could redeem this Kingdom from ruine, We resolved to try another way; & for avoyding delay, or cavill about names, or titles or descants upon words, to forbear writing, & humbly besought His Majesty to send Messengers with Instructions, to desire a Treaty for Peace; who was pleased to name M. *Richard Fanshaw*, and M. *Thomas Offly*, (Gentlemen of cleare repue and integrity,) & to avoyd their danger in repairing to *Westminster*, at Our desire, commanded the Earle of *Furth*, his Generall, to write to theirs for a safe Conduct for those two Messengers (for such is Our condition at present, that a free-born Subject, sent upon the Kings Message, cannot but with such leave repaire to *London* or *Westminster*, without danger of his Life,) The Letter for the safe Conduct was as followeth.

MY LORD,

I Cannot so willingly write to you in any businesse as in that of Peace, the endeavour thereof being the principall duty of those who are trusted in places of Our Commands, especially when the Blood that is spilt is of persons under the same Allegiance, of the same Country and Religion. His Majesty Continuing constant in His pious and fervent desires of a happy end to these bloody distractions, I doe hereby desire your Lordship to send me a safe Conduct to and from Westminster, for M. *Richard Fanshaw*, and M. *Tho. Offly*, to be sent by His Majesty concerning a Treaty for Peace. I rest,

Your Lordships humble servant
FORTH.

To this was returned a Letter, directed to the Earle of Forth, in these words, viz,

MY LORD,

YOU shew your Noblenesse in declaring your willingnesse to write to me in any business, as of that of Peace; and I joyne with you in the same opinion, that it ought to be a principall duty of those who are trusted in places of our Command; vnd therefore whensoever I shall receive any directions to those who have intrusted me, I shall use my best endeavours; and when you shall send for a safe Conduet for those Gentlemen, mentioned in your Letter, from His Majesty to the Houses of Parliament, I shall with all cheerfulness shew my willingnesse to further any way that may produce that happinesse, that all honest men pray for, which is a true understanding betweene His Majesty and his faithfull and onely Councell, the Parliament.

Essex-house, 19. February,
1643.

Your Lordships humble servant,
E S S E X.

That this doth neither grant a safe Conduet, or give any direct answer to the Earle of Forths request, every ordinary eye may see, (and yet such requests amongst Generalls are rarely denyed;) and We may easily thereby discern how fearefull they at Westminster are, lest the poor distressed people of this Kingdom, should by the advantage of a Treaty & free debate of the present difference, see how grossly they had beene deceived and misled, and so obtaine an end of their miseries: for otherwise who could have beleevd, that when these differences arose & were continued for want of a free Convention in Parliament, and that a maine end of the Treaty was to resolve how We, according to Our duty and the Trust reposed in Us by Our Countries, might with them freely debate and advise His Majesty in those things that concerned the maintenance of Our Religion, Parliaments, Priviledges, the

the Kings Rights, and the Subjects Liberty, and Property, that this Letter should tell Us, that the Party We are to Treat withall, is the Kings *onely Councell*, excluding all others, not onely Our selves called by the same authority to Councell as they were, but his Privie Councell also, and Councell at Law; so that We could have no hopes of a Treatie, unlesse We should first agree that they are the Parliament and the Kings onely Councell, whereby they that are parties would become the onely Judges of all things in question; which would be a submission and not a Treatie.

Having received these frivolous delays, which We might have interpreted absolute denials of any Treatie of Peace, We yet resolved not to give over Our endeavours for that which so much concerned the good of our Countrey, and the welfare of all Professors of the true Protestant Religion, by Our humble and earnest desires to His Majesty, prevailed with Him to write His Royall Letters, and once more desire a Treatie for Peace, (though it had beene so often formerly rejected) and to avoyd all colour of Exception, to direct it to the *Lords and Commons of Parliament assembled at Westminster*; which was done and enclosed in a Letter from the Earle of *Forth* to their Generall. A Copie of both which Letters hereafter follow.

MY LORD,

I Have received your Letter of the 19th of this Moneth, which, according to my dutie, I shewed to His Majestie, who observing in it your expressions concerning Peace, (that whensoever you shall receive any directions to those that have entrusted you, you shall use your best endeavours,) is graciously pleased to send this enclosed, which is desired may be delivered according to the directions.

Directed to the Earle of *Essex*, subscribed by
the Earle of *Forth*.

C. R.

Our most tender and pious sense of the sad and bleeding condition of this Our Kingdome, and Our unwearied desires to apply all remedies, which, by the blessing of Almighty God, may recover it from an utter ruine; By the advice of the Lords and Commons of Parliament Assembled at Oxford, We doe Propound and Desire, That a convenient number of fit Persons may be appointed and authorized by you to meet with all convenient speed, at such Place as you shall nominate, with an equall number of fit Persons, whom we shall appoint and authorize to Treat of the Wayes and Meanes to settle the present distractions of this Our Kingdome, and to procure a happie Peace: And particularly, how all the Members of both Houses may securely meet, in a full and free Convention of Parliament, there to Treat, Consult and agree upon such things, as may conduce to the maintenance and defence of the true Reformed Protestant Religion, with due consideration to all just and reasonable ease of tender Consciences; to the settling and maintaining of Our just Rights and Priviledges; of the Rights and Priviledges of Parliament, the Lawes of the Land, the Libertie and Propertie of the Subject; and all other expedients that may conduce to that blessed end of a firme and Lasting Peace both in Church and State, and a perfect understanding betwixt Vs and Our People; wherein no endeavours or Concurrencie of Ours shall be wanting. And God direct your hearts in the wayes of Peace. Given at Our Court at Oxford, the third day of March. 1643.

Superscribed,

To the Lords and Commons of Parliament
Asssembled at Westminster.

We

(II)

We now appeale to all the World, what could more have been done by His Majesty, or us, in order to Peace, here being so great a Condescending from a King to Subjects, all in different advantages left to them, both for time and place of treatie, and choice of persons to Treat : But what their Intentions to Peace are, will appear by their Letter enclosed in one from their Generall, to the Earle of *Forth*, both which are as followeth.

MY LORD,

I Am commanded by both Houses of Parliament, to send a Trumpeter with the inclosed Letter to His Majestie, which I desire your Lordship may be most humbly presented to His Majestie. I rest,

Essex-house. *March*
9^h. 1643.

Your Lordships humble servant,
E S S E X.

May it please Your MAJESTY,

VVE the Lords and Commons Assembled in the Parliament of *England*, taking into our Consideration a Letter sent from Your MAJESTY, dated the third of *March*, Instant, and directed to the Lords and Commons of Parliament, Assembled at *Westminster*, (which by the Contents of a Letter from the Earle of *Forth*, unto the Lord-Generall, the Earle of *Essex*, we conceive was intended to our selves) Have resolved, with the concurrent advice and consent of the Commissioners of the Kingdome of *Scotland*, to represent to Your MAJESTY, in all humilitie and plainesse as followeth.

That, as we have used all meanes for a just and a safe Peace; so will we never be wanting to doe our utmost for the procuring thereof: But when we consider the expressions in that Letter of Your MAJESTIES, We have more sad and despairing thoughts of attaining the same

same, then ever ; because thereby those Persons now Assembled at *Oxford*, who contrary to their dutie have deserted Your Parliament, are put into an equall Condition with it : and this present Parliament Convened according to the known and Fundamentall Lawes of the Kingdome (the continuance whereof is established by a Law consented unto by Your MAJESTY,) is in effect denied to be a Parliament ; The Scope, and Intention of that Letter being to make provision how all the Members (as is pretended) of both Houses may securely meet in a full, and free Convention of Parliament ; whereof no other conclusion can be made, but that this present Parliament is not a full nor free Convention ; And that to make it a full, and free Convention of Parliament, the presence of those is Necessarie ; who, notwithstanding that they have deserted that great *Trust*, and do Levie Warre against the Parliament, are pretended to be Members of the two Houses of Parliament.

And hereupon we thinke our selves bound to let Your MAJESTY know, That seeing the continuance of this Parliament is settled by a Law (which as all other Lawes of Your Kingdomes, Your Majestie hath sworn to maintaine, as we are sworn to our Allegiance to Your Majestie, (these obligations being reciprocal) we must in duty, and accordingly are resolved with our Lives and Fortunes to defend and preserve the *Just Rights, and full Power of this Parliament* : And doe beseech Your Majestie to be assured, That Your Majesties Royall, and heartie Concurrence with us herein will be the most effectuell, and readie meanes of procuring a firme and lasting *Peace*, in all Your Majesties Dominions, and of begetting a perfect understanding betweene Your Majesty, and Your People ; without which Your Majesties most earnest Professions, and our most reall Intentions concerning the same must necessarily be frustrated. And in case Your Majesties three Kingdomes should, by reason thereof, remaine in this sad and bleeding Condition, tending, by the continuance of this unnaturall *Warre*, to their Ruine ; Your Majestie cannot be the least, nor the last sufferer. God in his goodnesse incline Your Royall Breast, out of pittie and compassion to those deepe sufferings of Your Innocent People, to put a speedy and happy Issue to these desperate Evills, by the joynt advice of both Your Kingdomes now happily united in this *Cause*, by their late solemn *League and Covenant* : Which as it will prove the surest remedie ; so
is it

is it the earnest prayer of Your *Majesties* Loyall Subjects, the *Lords* and *Commons* Assembled in the Parliament of *England*.

Westminster the 9th
of *March* 1643.

Grey of Warke, Speaker of the
House of Peers in Parliament,
pro tempore.

William Lenthall Speaker of the
Commons House in Parliament.

Whosoever considers that this should be a Letter from Subjects, might well think it very unbecoming language in them, to call His *Majesties* earnest endeavours for Peace, but *Professions*, and their owne feigned pretence, *most real Intentions*, but much more menacing language, that *His Majesty cannot be the least or last Sufferer*; which expressions from Subjects in Armes to their Sovereigne, what dangerous construction they may admit, we are unwilling to mention.

But we need not wonder at the manner of their expressions, when we see in this Letter the Parliament it selfe, as farre as in them lies, destroyed, and those who here stile themselves; The *Lords* and *Commons* assembled in the Parliament of *England*, not to resolve upon their Answer to their King, without the concurrent advice and consent of the *Commissioners*, as they call them, of the Kingdome of *Scotland*.

If they had onely taken the advice of the *Scottish Commissioners*, they had broken the Fundamentall Constitution of Parliament, the very *Writs of Summons*, the Foundation of all power in *Parliament*, being in expresse termes for the *Lords* to treat and advise with the King, and the *Peeres* of the Kingdome of *England*, and for the *Commons* to doe and consent to those things, which by that *Common-Councell* of *England* should be ordained, thereby excluding al others.

C

But

But their League, it seemes, is gone further; the Scots must consent as well as advise, so that they have gotten a negative voice, & they, who in the former Letter would be the Kings onely Councell, are now become no Councell without the Scottish Commissioners: the truth is, they have (besides the solemn League and Covenant with the Scots, (which their Letter mentions) a strange & traiterous presumption for Subjects to make a Covenant & League with Subjects of another Kingdom without their Prince,) made private bargains with the Scots touching our Estates, & a private agreement, not to treat without their consent, as some of themselves being afraid of a Treatie, openly declared to the Common-Councell of *London*; and therefore 'tis no wonder, that being touched to the quick, with the apprehension that they are not, nor can be in this condition, a full & free Convention of Parliament, they charge Vs with deserting Our trust: and would have Vs to be no Members of the Parliament. They may remember it was our want of freedom within, and the seditious Tumults without, their many multiplied Treasons there, and imposing traiterous Oathes, which enforced our absence; but concerning that and the want of freedom in Parliament, we shall say no more here, (that being the subject of another Declaration) onely we wish them to consider by what fundamentall Lawes of the Kingdom (which they have lately wrested to serve all turnes) they can exclude Vs from our Votes in Parliament, who were duely summoned, chosen and returned Members of Parliament, and take in those of another Kingdom to their resolutions, who are not bound by our Lawes.

But what violation soever they make of the Lawes, they are forward to put the King in mind of his Dutie; and therefore tell Him, That He is sworn to maintain the Lawes, as they are sworn to their Allegiance to Him, these obligations being reciprocall, it is true in some sense, that the Oath of the
King

King and Subjects is reciprocall, that is, each is bound to performe what they sweare, the King as well as the Subjects; but he that will well weigh their Letter, and make one part have connexion with the other, and examine that part of their Covenant, whereby they sweare they will defend the Kings Person and Authoritie (no further or otherwise then in preservation of their Religion and Liberties,) may easily finde another construction, viz. That the Subjects Allegiance is no longer due then the King performes his Dutie, nay, no longer than He in their opinion observes his Dutie, whereof they themselves must be Judges; and if He faile in his dutie, they may take up Armes against Him; a principle which as it is utterly destructive to all Government, so wee beleewe, they themselves dare not plainly avow it, least as they now make use of it against the King, so the People finding their faile of Dutie, and breach of Trust, should hereafter practise it by taking up Armes against them, and so shake off that yoke of tyrannie imposed by their fellow-subjects, which lies so heavie upon them, that it were well, as they still presse upon the Kings maintenance of the Lawes, they would also know that their obligation to observe the same is reciprocall, and while they here resolve to defend and preserve the full power of this *Parliament*, (which in their sence can be no other than the power they have exercised this *Parliament*) they would take notice, that they are therein so farre from observation of the Lawes, that they desperately resolve an utter subversion of them; for what can more tend to the destruction of the Lawes, then to usurpe a power to themselves without the King, and against his wil to raise Armes, to attribute to their Orders or pretended Ordinances, the power of Lawes and Statutes, to inforce Contributions, Loanes, and Taxes, of all sorts from the Subject, to imprison without cause shewed, and then prohibit Writs of *Habeas Corpus* for their enlargement;

ment to lay Excises upon all Commodities, to command and dispose of the Lives and Estates of the free borne Subjects of this Kingdome at their pleasure, to impose Tonnage and Poundage, contrary to the Law declared in the late Act for Tonnage and poundage, and all this done and justified, as by a legall civill power founded and inherent in them? all which are manifest breaches of the Petition of Right and *Magna Charta*, the great evidence of the Liberties of *England*; which Charter by expresse words binds them and us, though assembled in Parliament, as well as the King, and though it be not now, as heretofore it hath been, taken by solemn Oath on the peoples part as well as on the Kings, nor a curse as heretofore pronounced on the violaters, yet they having taken a Protestation to maintain the Lawes and Liberties, and the Properties of the Subject, and inclusively that Charter, let them take heed whilst they make use of this their pretended power to the destruction of the Law, least a curse fall upon them and upon their posterity. God knoweth, and it is too certaine a truth, that our selves and many other good subjects in this Kingdome, even under the power of the Kings Army, have suffered exceedingly in liberty and estates during this present Rebellion, by many heavy charges; the sad consideration whereof makes our heart bleed, because wee can see no way for reliefe, so long as this unnaturall rebellion continues: but as these things were first practised by them, and thereby necessitated upon the Kings Army; so it was never yet pretended that they were done by vertue of a Law, but either by consent, or by the unhappy and unavoydable exigences of Warre, and to expire with the present Rebellion, which God in mercy hasten. For our parts we have the inward comfort of our own consciences, witnessing with us, that we have improved all opportunities and advantages for the restoring of this Kingdome to its former peace; and we must witnesse for
His

His Majesty his most hearty desires thereof: and though both his Majesty and our endeavours therein have been made frustrate, yet God in his great goodnesse hath raised up our spirits, not to desert our Religion, our King, our Lawes, our lives, the liberties of us English free borne subjects, and by Gods assistance and his Majesties concurrence, we doe resolve to unite our selves as one man, and cheerfully adventure our lives and estates for the maintainance and defence of the true Reformed Protestant Religion of the Church of *England*, (of which we professe our selves to be,) for the defence of the Kings person and rights of his Crowne, for the regaining and maintaining the rights and priviledges of *Parliament*, and the liberty of the subjects person, and property of his estate, according to the knowne Lawes of the Land, to repell those of the *Scottish* Nation, that have in a warlike manner entred this Realme, and to reduce the subjects thereof now in rebellion to the Kings obedience: and we doubt not but the same God will inlighten the eyes of the poore deceived people of this land, like true hearted honest English-men, to loyne unanimously with us in so just and pious a work. And the God of heaven prosper us according to the goodnesse of the Cause we have in hand.



The names of the Lords and Commons
of PARLIAMENT assembled at OXFORD,
who did subscribe the Letter to the Earle of
Essex, dated *January 27. 1643.*

CHARLES P.
YORK E.
CHAMBERLAND.

Ed. Littleton. C. S.

Fra. Cottington.

D. Richmond.

M. Hertford.

E. Lindsey.

E. Dorset.

E. Shrewsbury.

E. Bath.

E. Southampton.

E. Leicester.

E. Northampton.

E. Devonshire.

E. Carlile.

E. Bristoll.

E. Barkshire.

E. Cleveland.

E. Rivers.

E. Dover.

E. Peterborough.

E. Kingston.

E. Newport.

E. Portland.

V. Conway,

L. Digby.

L. Moubray & Matraviers.

L. Wentworth.

L. Cromwell.

L. Rich.

L. Paget.

L. Chandoy.

L. Howard of Charlton.

L. Lovelace.

L. Savile.

L. Mohun.

L. Dunsmore.

L. Seymour.

L. Percy.

L. Wilmot.

L. Leigh.

L. Hatton.

L. Jermin.

L. Carrington.

I ohn Fettiplace.	Ger. Naper.
Alex. Denton.	Sam. Turner.
John Packington.	Will. Constantine.
Tho. Smith.	Hen. Killigrew.
F. Gamul.	R. King.
Io. Harris.	John Dutton.
Ioseph Jane.	Hen. Bret.
Ric. Edgecombe.	Will. Chadwell.
Jonathan Rastleigh.	Theobald Gorges.
G. Fane.	John George.
P. Edgecombe.	Tho. Fanshaw.
Will. Glanvill.	Humf. Conningesby.
Ro. Holburne.	Ri. Seaborne.
Ra. Sydenham.	Arth. Ranelagh.
Fr. Godolphin.	Tho. Tomkins.
Geo. Parry.	Sampson Evers.
Amb. Manaton.	John Culpeper.
Ri. Vyvyan.	Jeffrey Palmer.
Io. Polewheile.	John Harrison.
John Arundell.	Tho. Fanshaw.
Tho. Lower.	Rog. Palmer.
Edward Hide.	Orlando Bridgman.
Will. Allestree.	Will. Watkins.
Geo. Stonehouse.	John Smith.
Ed. Seymour.	Tho. Bludder.
Peter Sainthill.	Ed. Littleton.
Will. Poole.	Harvy Bagot.
Roger Mathew.	Ri. Leveson.
Ri. Arundell.	Ri. Cave.
Ro. Walker.	Ri. Weston.
Giles Strangwaies.	Ri. Lee.
John Strangwaies.	Tho. Whitmore.
Tho. Hele.	Ed. Acton.

C. Baldwin.

C. Baldwin	Edward Griffin
R. Goodwin	Walter Smith
Tho. Howard	George Lowe
Tho. Littleton	Ric: Harding
Ro. Howard	Henry Herbert
John Metx	End. Porter
Matthew Davis	Samuel Sandys
F. Cornwallis	John Bodvill
Tho. Jermin	William Morgan
John Taylor	William Thomas
William Baffer	John Mostyn
William Portman	Henry Bellasis
Edw. Rodney	George Wentworth
Tho. Hanham	William Malory
Ed: Phelipps	Richard Aldburgh
John Digby	John Salisbury
Ed. Kirton	William Herbert
Christ. Lukenor	William Price
Edw. Alford	John Price
John White	R. Herbert
John Ashburnham	Cha. Price
William Smith	Phil. Warwicke
Thomas Leeds	Tho. Cooke
J. Thinne	Rob. Crooke
W. Pleydell	Herb. Price
Ro. Hide:	John Whistler.

THese PEERES following, being disabled by severall accidents, to appeare sooner, have since attended the Service, and concurred with us.

Viscount Cambrden
Lord Aburgavenny.
Lord Arundell.

Lord Capet
Lord Newport

Peeres imployed in His Majesties service, or
absent with leave.

Marquesse of Winchester
Marquesse of Worcester
Marquesse of New-Castle
Earle of Darby
Earle of Huntingdon
Earle of Clare
Earle of Marleborough
V. Falkenbridge
L. Morley
L. Darcy and Coniers
L. Sturton.

L. Evers
L. Daincourt
L. Pawlet
L. Brndnell.
L. Powesse
L. Herbert of Chisbury
L. Hopton
L. Voughborough
L. Byron
L. Langban
L. Withrington

Peeres absent in the parts beyond the seas

Earle of Arundell
Earle of St. Albans
Viscount Montague
Viscount Stafford
Stanhop

L. Coventry
L. Goring
L. Craven of Hamsted
L. Craven of Ryton

Peeres in prison for their loyalty to His Majesty.
Earle of Chesterfeild.
L. Mountague of Boughton.

Whoever views these numbers, and considers how many peeres are at this time under age, will quickly know, who and how many are privy or consenting to the Counsells at *Westminster*.

THese Members following being disabled by severall accidents to appear sooner, have since attended the service, and concurred with us.

Peter Venables
Sir Iohn Pawles
Edward Bagshaw
Sir Iohn Burlasey
Francis Newport
Anthony Hungerford
Iohn Russell
Thomas Chicheley
Earle of Cork
Sir Gervase Clifton
Sir Gny Palmes
Robert Sutton

Gervase Hollis
Sir Patritius Curwen
Sir Henry Bellingham
Sir George Dalston
Sir Thomas Standford
Sir William Dalston
Michael Wharton
Sir Robert Hatton
James Scudamore
Sir Iohn Brook
Sir Iohn Stepney.

Employed in His Majesties Service, or absent with leave,
 or by sicknesse.

Sir Iohn Fenick
Hugh Potter

Walter Kyrle.
William Stanhop.

Sir William Carnaby
Sir Thomas Danby
John Fennick
Ralph Sneade
Sir William Ogle
Sir Thomas Iermine
Sir John Stowell
Sir Robert Strickland
Sir Philip Musgrave
John Cowcher
John Coventry
Sir Henry Slingsby
Sir John Malory
John Bellasis
Sir Thomas Ingram

Lord Mansfeild
Thomas Heblethwaite
Sir Hugh Cholmely
Sir George Wentworth
Sir Walter LLOYD
Sir Henry Vaughan
Francis LLOYD
John Vaughan
Richard Ferrrs
George Hartnoll
Sir William Vdall
Robert Hunt
Thomas May
Sir Thomas Bowyer
Sir Thomas Roe.

Whoever now considers how many have retired themselves into severall Counties, and so are absent from *Westminster*, and yet cannot through the danger of travelling be present at *Oxford*; how many have withdrawn themselves into the parts beyond the Seas; how many of their own principall Instruments are Voted out of the House by themselves, as *Sir John Hotham* and his sonne, *Sir Alexander Carew*, *M. Martin*, *M. Fiennes*, and many others; & how many now are imprisoned by them; how many Members from the beginning have been factiously kept from the House upon questions of Election; and how many without any Colour, are kept in, by not suffering their Elections to be reported; and that there are Thirty five Members dead, into whose roomes no new persons are chosen; how many since are become Barons by descent or Creation, wil easily conclude, how small the number is which remaines, and of those how few in truth have right to sit there.

Lord Mansfield
 Thomas H. B. H. H.
 Sir Hugh Cholmondeley
 Sir George H. H. H.
 Sir Henry H. H.
 Sir Henry H. H.
 Francis H. H.
 John H. H.
 Robert H. H.
 George H. H.
 Sir William H. H.
 Robert H. H.
 Thomas H. H.
 Sir Thomas H. H.
 Sir Thomas H. H.

Sir Thomas H. H.
 Sir Thomas H. H.
 John H. H.
 Sir Henry H. H.
 Sir Henry H. H.
 Sir Henry H. H.
 Sir Henry H. H.
 Sir Henry H. H.
 Sir Henry H. H.
 Sir Henry H. H.
 Sir Henry H. H.
 Sir Henry H. H.
 Sir Henry H. H.
 Sir Henry H. H.

Whoever now considers how many have retired themselves
 into several Counties, and so are absent from Westminster, and
 yet cannot through the danger of travelling be present at Ox-
 ford; how many have withdrawn themselves into the parts be-
 yond the seas; how many of their own principal instruments
 are Voted out of the House by themselves, as Sir John Holt
 and his Son, Sir Alexander Curzon, M. Martin, M. Finner,
 and many others; & how many now are imprisoned by them;
 how many Members from the beginning have been factiously
 kept from the House upon questions of Election; and how
 many without any Colour, are kept in, by not suffering their
 Elections to be reported; and that there are Thirty five Mem-
 bers dead; into whose rooms no new persons are chosen;
 how many since are become Barons by descent or Creation;
 will easily conclude; how small the number is which remains;
 and of those how few in truth have right to sit there.